**Assessing Part-Whole Relationships**

(Adapted from Van de Walle, Teaching Developmentally 7e, 2010, Pearson Education)

To assess the important part-whole relationship, use a missing-part diagnostic interview. Begin with a number you believe the child has “mastered,” say 5. Have that child count out that many counters in your open hand. Close your hand around the counters and confirm that she knows how many are hidden there. Then remove some and show them in the palm of your hand. Ask the child, “How many are hidden?” Repeat with different amounts removed, although it is only necessary to check three or four missing parts for each number. If the child responds quickly and correctly without counting in any way, consider that a “mastered number” and check off that skill on your student data sheet. If a number is mastered, repeat the entire process with the next higher number. Continue until the child begins to stumble.

Materials Needed:

* Counters